GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2484
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
CUSTOMS DUTIES FOR POWER PLANTS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided that there would be no customs duties for power plants upto 250 mega watts capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken by the Government to boost the power sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : No Sir.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) : The following steps taken are expected to boost the power sector:-

i. Generation capacity addition of around 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan in all Sectors [State + Private + Central).

ii. Increase of generation from existing thermal power plants.

iii. Enhancement of inter-regional transfer of power from surplus region(s) to deficit region(s).

iv. Demand side management and promotion of energy efficiency and conservation measures.

v. Disbursement of loans with interest subsidy by Power Finance Corporation for Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension Schemes for old and inefficient generating units.

vi. Focus on metering of all consumers, energy audit, improvement of billing and collection efficiency, reduction of technical and commercial losses, reduction and elimination of theft of power, constitution and Operationalisation of State Electricity Regulatory Commission, achievement of commercial viability in a time bound manner.

vii. The Ministry of Power has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with States on power sector reform envisaging support of Central Government subject to States progressing satisfactorily on agreed reform agenda.

viii. The Union Government, in order to help the State Electricity Boards, isproviding funds to States under Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme for investment in identified distribution areas and also incentivising the reduction of cash losses through grants.

ix. The Electricity Act, 2003, which has been enacted recently, is a progressive legislation that provides for measures conducive to development of electricity industry, promoting competition therein, protecting interests of consumers and supply of electricity to all areas, rationalization of electricity tariff, ensuring transparent policies etc.